

January 13, 2004

**Public Notice for 401 Water Quality Certification and/or Waste  
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)**

**California Department of Transportation,  
Highway 20 Post Mile 37.9/43.0  
Potter Valley, WDID No. 1B03184WNME  
Mendocino County**

On October 24, 2003, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Highway Rehabilitation Project in Potter Valley, Mendocino County. Additional information was submitted on December 11, 2003 and the application was deemed complete. The project is located on Highway 20, Post Mile 37.9 to 43.0. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the state associated with tributaries to Cold Creek and the Russian River, Coyote Valley Hydrologic Sub Area 114.32.

The project will have a temporary impact area of 0.0363 acres, a permanent impact area of 0.0496 acres and result in the placement of 394 yd<sup>3</sup> of fill into waters of the state. The project will include work on eleven drainage systems, asphalt concrete overlays, median paving at the Potter Valley Road intersection, bridge deck repair and maintenance, guardrail and dike replacement and shoulder widening.

Non-compensatory mitigation measures include the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control impacts from sediment discharge, and replanting to prevent erosion. The work will be conducted in the dry season and equipment will not be operated in flowing water.

Caltrans has applied for a 1601 streambed alteration agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game and Nationwide Permit Nos. 23 and 33 have been submitted to the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

The Regional Water Board, as the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that this project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA.

Regional Water Board staff propose to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mona Dougherty at (707) 570-3761 or at [dougmb@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:dougmb@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov) within 21 days of the posting of this notice.